

IMPROVED SNOW SHOVEL TO OVER COME THE OBSTACLE OF HEIGHT DIFFERENCES FOUND IN EXPANSION JOINTS OF CONCRETE SIDE WALKS..

This invention relates to shovels in general, and more specifically to snow shovels in particular.

As part of home maintenance in winter, snow shovels are used to remove accumulated snow from side walks, drive ways and other areas.

There are many types of snow shovels made at the present time, some have blades made of steel, some made of aluminum, and some made of plastic, or a combination of all of the above, of course they all have a handle attached, to control the above mentioned blade. The handle can be made of wood or plastic. It can be a straight, or curved, and have a spade type grip, or not.

One problem that is common to all the snow shovels that are being manufactured at the present time is. As the front working edge of the snow shovel blade is being pushed along the top surface of the side walk, the working edge of the blade will encounter breaks in the surface of the sidewalk. These breaks can be cracks that have occurred or they can be man made expansion joints. If one side or the other of the edges of these cracks or expansion joints has dropped or lifted the working edge of the shovel can be effected in one of two ways. If it is traveling from the high edge to the low edge of the crack or expansion joint it will slide over with no noticeable effect, but if it is passing from the low side to the high side of the crack or expansion joint it will be stopped short with a jolt. The snow shovel and all it's contents must be manually lifted up above the higher surface of sidewalk before snow shoveling can continue.

Another problem is snow sticking to the blade of the snow shovel as it is being used.

This invention is a change to the design and shape of the under side surface of the snow shovel blade, the changed area is located near the front working edge of said snow shovel blade. Starting at the front edge and continuing towards the back edge for a distance of about two inches. and extending from the left side, or left edge of the blade to the right side, or right edge of the blade. In other words, changing the entire front area of the under side of the snow shovel blade beginning at the front edge, and continuing towards the back edge. for about two inches.

This invention consists of a wedge like protuberance of material, usually of the same material the blade is made of, this wedge like extension to the underside front edge of the blade of the snow shovel is positioned so that the front edge of the wedge like protrusion is at the front working edge of the snow shovel, as we go back towards the back portion of the blade of the snow shovel it becomes thicker and thicker for a distance of about two inches, then bending at a more or less obtuse angle, turns upwards for a distance of about half an inch to join the lower surface of said blade. thus leaving a protuberance across the entire front edge, on the under side of the snow shovel blade, this protuberance can now be used as a fulcrum to lever the front edge of the snow shovel blade above any obstacle encountered by gently pushing down on the handle of the snow shovel. This protubrence that we have been describing as a wedge like shape could be of other shapes, such as a half round shape, or a wide "V" shape. or it could be a set of small wheels.

An object of the present invention is to provide a new improved snow shovel that can be used to remove snow from a side walk without being stopped by cracks and expansion joints that have one edge of said cracks and expansion joints higher than the other edge.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved snow shovel that can slide past cracks and expansion joints that have one edge of said joints higher than the other edge without having to lift the shovel and its contents manually.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved snow shovel that can slide past cracks and expansion joints that have one edge of said joints higher than the other edge do to the unique design of the bottom surface of said snow shovel.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved snow shovel that can slide past cracks and expansion joints that have one edge of said joints higher than the other edge by the very simple and effortless means of pushing down on the handle of said snow shovel.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved snow shovel that can slide past cracks and expansion joints that have one edge of said joint higher than the other edge by having a wedge like projection with a rounded corner, as part of the lower surface, that can be used as a fulcrum to lever the working edge of the blade of the snow shovel above the obstacle in front of it.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved snow shovel that can slide over and past cracks and expansion joints that have one edge of said joint higher than the other edge and will last longer as the blade will not wear off as fast as an ordinary snow shovel due to the wedge like projection that is part of the lower surface of the new improved snow shovel

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved snow shovel that will prevent snow from sticking to it as it is being used to shovel snow.

These and other objects and advantages of this invention will become apparent upon reading the following description of which the attached drawings form a part.

The drawings are two side view of a snow shovel.

Fig 1, shows a snow shovel that has the new invention, a wedge like protuberance on the bottom surface of said snow shovel. It is resting on the surface of a concrete side walk with the front working edge of the snow shovel blade stopped and blocked by the higher surface of the next slab of concrete sidewalk that has risen to a higher plane than the concrete slab it is resting on.

Fig. 2. Is another view of the same snow shovel resting upon the same section of concrete sidewalk after the handle of said snow shovel has been brought downward for about ten inches, showing how the wedge like protuberance on the bottom surface of said snow shovel has acted as a fulcrum lifting the working edge of the blade up and above the surface of the raised surface of the next slab of concrete sidewalk.

Referring to the drawing;

It is seen in Fig. 1. how the working edge 7, of the snow shovel blade 3, that is resting upon the surface of a slab of concrete sidewalk 1, is blocked and stopped from any further forward motion by the next slab of concrete sidewalk 2, that has an edge 8, that has risen to a higher position than the slab of concrete sidewalk 1.

It is seen in Fig. 2. when the handle 4, of the snow shovel 9, is lowered downward, bringing the handle 4, about ten inches closer to the slab of concrete sidewalk 1, the working edge 7, of the blade 3, is forced upward by the wedge like protuberance 6, acting as a fulcrum, freeing it from, and allowing it to pass over, the higher edge 8, of the next slab of concrete sidewalk 2. and allowing the snow shovel 9, to continue along the side walk with out the snow shovel 9, and it's contents having to be manually lifted free, the teflon coating or other non stick treatment is located on the upper surface 5, of the blade 3 of the snow shovel 9.

This invention may be further developed within the scope of the following claims, accordingly, it is desired that the foregoing description be read merely as being illustrative of an operative embodiment of this invention and not in a strictly limiting sense.